

243 **REMARKS SECTION**

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245 **Remarks, General:**

246 1. Would the examiner be kind enough to explain the differences and usages
247 between "Canceling a claim" and "Withdrawing a claim". In common vernacular, they
248 are synonymous.

249 However, MPEP 714 has different instructions pertaining to each. Clearly the PTO
250 has some not-obvious distinction that is important to the applicant, yet there is no
251 definition or illustration in the MPEP.

252 Since the answer does not directly bear on this office action, the answer may be
253 informal and sent by Email bross@seanet.com.

254 2. Not all word processors have strike-through capability. The MPEP gives no
255 alternative to the strike through process. Hand lining may satisfy the PTO, but does
256 not leave a properly marked copy in computer-readable form. [[]] or similar should
257 be permitted for any length of deletion the same as [] was previously permitted.

258 3. Since the PTO scan-to-text process is prone to both error and "thinking for itself",
259 thus re-formatting and re-paragraphing the specification arbitrarily, adding words,
260 dropping words and parts of words sometimes reversing the sense of a sentence, and
261 changing words like "figure" to "FIG, etc, it is recommended that the Office institute a
262 policy that before issue, each applicant be given the opportunity to review and correct
263 the version ready to be sent to the printer. This would eliminate many office-paid-for
264 certificates of correction.

265 In most cases, the 18 month pre-award publication will do. However, when no
266 publication is available because has not been published either automatically at 18
267 month (ie, patent issues before publication) or non-publication is requested, the
268 applicant should be provided with a copy for final review and edit.

269 The present application is not the only one for which applicant has had problems with

270 conversion errors. Surely, the examiner has seen this also.

271 **Remarks Applicable Amendments to the Specification:**

272 These have been inserted in the pages with the amendments to the specification.

273 **Remarks Applicable to Amendments to the Claims:**

274 Summary:

275 Claims 1-16 are no longer under consideration

276 Claims 17 - 27 are presented for consideration.

277 None of the references cited show the combination of elements set forth in claims
278 currently under consideration.

279 Referring to Figures 18, 19 and 20, New claim 17 describes a panel 7 with the
280 panel joining hooks 4 rotated 180 degrees from the Starheim patent 6,315,495.
281 One purpose for the reversal of the is to be able to use the alternate embodiments A, B,
282 and C of the joining clip shown in Figure 21, all of which may be used either straight as
283 illustrated or bent to become corner joiners in the general manner shown in Figure 18.

284 Referring to Figure 31, New claim 18 shows an embodiment of the panel joining clip
285 with a closed pocket for receiving a joining clip of the types A and B of Figure 21. The
286 channel embodiment of Figure 31 permits the simple joining clips of Fig 21 A and B to
287 join panels with both push and pull restraint.

288 New claim 19 is a description of the embodiment shown in Fig 21 C. It is presented as
289 a separate dependent claim because the description of a retro-bend is grammatically
290 awkward to combine with the descriptions of the transverse bends at the ends of Fig
291 21 A and B.

292 New Claim 20 is for the joining system embodiment shown in Figure 39. None of the
293 prior art referenced show an attached rotating hook for joining adjacent panels.

294 New Claim 21 is for a ring embodiment of the cooperating portion of the hooking

295 system, pin 84 of Figure 39. Support for a ring is found in the specification at lines
296 729 - 734. In particular line 733.

297 New Claim 22 is directed to the embodiment of Figures 22 and 23, and the clamps of
298 Figure 24. Text lines 636-663

299 New Claim 23 is directed to particular shapes of the apertures of Figures 22 and 23.
300 Text lines 636-663

301 New Claim 24 and 25 are for edge notching. Separate claims for top and bottom
302 notching are presented to avoid awkward grammatical construction needed to
303 incorporate notches in two locations.
304 Text lines 636-663

305 New Claim 26 Is directed to the embodiment shown in Figure 25.
306 Text lines 665-669

307 None of the above claimed embodiments appear in the referenced patents.

308 Examiner cites US 5,689,920 and 5,454,195 by Jeffery Halsten. The Halsten
309 disclosures show a method of clamping the liner similar to Figures 33 and 35 of the
310 present invention. No claims are pending using the embodiments of Figures 33 and
311 35. Therefore, Halsten cannot be used as a basis of rejection.

312 **Remarks Applicable to Amendments to the Drawings:**

313 No amendments to the drawing are presented.

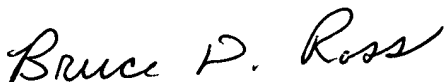
314 Respectfully submitted,

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318 Bruce D. Ross, Joint Applicant

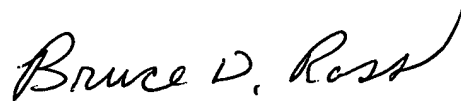


319 Telephone: 206 - 938 - 3059
320 or 206 - 935 - 4891
321 or bross@seanet.com

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED CONSTRUCTIVE ASSISTANCE:

Applicants respectfully request that continue the practice of clear writing and when applicable, re-draft or suggest changes to the claims that are not entirely suitable, per MPEP 707.07j.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce D. Ross".

Bruce D. Ross, Joint Applicant

Telephone: 206 - 938 - 3059

or 206 - 935 - 4891

or bross@seanet.com

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